

# **SUPERFUND**

## **Fact Sheet**

### **TAYLOR LUMBER & TREATING SITE**

Sheridan, Oregon



U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

June 2001

### **Site Approved for EPA Investigation and Cleanup**

On June 14, 2001, the Taylor Lumber & Treating site in Sheridan, Oregon, was added to EPA's National Priorities List. The National List is the list of the nation's most contaminated hazardous waste sites, identified for long-term cleanup. Last December, EPA proposed to add the Taylor site to the National List, and requested public comments.

### **Next Steps for Cleanup**

EPA has done significant removal work at the site which will successfully prevent contaminants from spreading in the short term. However, a comprehensive long-term cleanup strategy needs to be designed to address contaminants in soil, sediments, groundwater, surface water, and possibly the South Yamhill River. EPA will start by using existing data to evaluate what types of contamination are at the site, and how much is present.

During this first phase of the study, called a "Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study" (RI/FS), highly contaminated areas that may need early cleanup will be identified. EPA will also identify what additional data is needed to complete the study. Data evaluation is underway.

In the second phase of the RI/FS, EPA will sample as necessary to fill in data gaps, evaluate the extent of the contamination at the site, evaluate cleanup alternatives, and then choose a final remedy for the site. Sampling is projected to take place in 2002, after the data evaluation is completed. EPA

will hold a public comment period and hearing to gather input on all alternatives before this final remedy is chosen. EPA is working closely with Taylor, and doing what we can to minimize costs while making the site safe.

### **Technical Assistance Grant Available**

EPA will provide information on Technical Assistance Grants (TAGs) to all interested parties. A TAG provides funds to citizen groups that are affected by a Superfund site. Grant money is used to hire technical advisors to help interpret and explain technical materials produced as part of the Superfund process.

Initial grants up to \$50,000 are available, and require the group to match a local share contribution of 20% of total program cost. EPA recognizes the value of your group's skills and time. The TAG Program allows you to count the value of volunteer services and contributions of supplies toward the required 20% match. Donated office equipment and time, as well as cash, count towards this 20% match. Volunteer services and donated supplies used toward your match are called "in-kind contributions." To receive more information about TAGs, please call Jeanne O'Dell, EPA Region 10 TAG Coordinator, at (206) 553-6919, or toll-free at 1-800-424-4372, extension 6919.

### **Site Contaminants**

Chemicals used during the treatment of lumber at Taylor have been found in high concentrations in the soil, groundwater, and drainage ditches surrounding the facility. These chemicals include: arsenic, creosote,

polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), and pentachlorophenol (PCP). Dioxin and mercury were also found at the site. These contaminants have been found in sediment samples taken from the South Yamhill River.

Some of the contaminants at Taylor, are classified as "Non-Aqueous Phase Liquids" (NAPLs).

- *Light Non-Aqueous Phase Liquids* (LNAPLs), such as diesel fuel, are less dense than water. As they move through the soil, they tend to float on the groundwater.
- *Dense Non-Aqueous Phase Liquids* (DNAPLs), such as creosote, are heavier than water and tend to sink in the groundwater. DNAPLs pose more of a cleanup challenge than LNAPLs since they are absorbed into the soil and sediments.

### Community Involvement Plan

EPA has developed a Community Involvement Plan for this site, which is available for review at the Sheridan Public Library. The plan is also posted on the Taylor web page (see end of this fact sheet for the web address). It summarizes ways local citizens and officials said they wanted to keep informed about the site and participate in the decision making process. As community concerns and questions may change over the course of this project, the plan can be amended to meet community needs. If you have questions or comments, or would like to find out more about how to get involved, please call **Debra Packard**, EPA's Community Involvement Coordinator, at (206) 553-0247, or toll-free at 1-800-424-4372, extension 0247.

### Questions or Comments?

For technical questions or concerns, please call **Loren McPhillips** at 1-800-424-4372, extension 4903.

E-mail: [mcphillips.loren@epa.gov](mailto:mcphillips.loren@epa.gov)

If you have comments on the Community Involvement Plan or have suggestions for public involvement activities, please call **Debra Packard** at 1-800-424-4372, extension 0247.

E-mail: [packard.debra@epa.gov](mailto:packard.debra@epa.gov)

### Background

The Taylor Lumber & Treating site processes and treats wood. The facility is about one mile west of Sheridan, Oregon at the intersection of Rock Creek Road and Oregon State Highway 18.

Significant cleanup work has already taken place at the site. During 2000, EPA and Taylor removed 4,200 tons of contaminated soil from ditches around the facility to keep it from washing into Rock Creek and the South Yamhill River. To prevent further movement of contaminated groundwater, EPA also built a slurry wall and an asphalt cap around the main treatment plant. The cap will minimize any additional water seepage into the ground, where it could be contaminated by woodtreating chemicals in the soils and move toward the river. A second asphalt cap was built in the treated pole storage area. Both caps will limit airborne dust, which contains contaminants such as arsenic.

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ) and EPA share responsibilities for making sure environmental rules are followed at Taylor. ODEQ issues permits for air emissions and water discharges. EPA oversees hazardous waste management and site cleanup work.

### **For more information**

Future documents related to the cleanup activities will be placed in the Sheridan Public Library, at 142 N.W. Yamhill Street in Sheridan, Oregon.

**If you have any questions, please contact one of the following people:**

**Loren McPhillips**, Project Manager, at (206) 553-4903

**Debra Packard**, Community Involvement Coordinator, at (206) 553-0247  
*Tollfree at 1-800-424-4372*

**Mike Slater**, Oregon Operations Office, at (503) 326-5872

### **Online Information**

If you would like to find out about other news at EPA Region 10, see our web page at: <http://www.epa.gov/r10/earth>. EPA also has developed a web page with information on the Taylor site. You can access it through the Region 10 web page: click on "Index," then click on "T."

If you would like to receive future fact sheets about EPA's activities at this site, please contact **Debra Packard** at (206) 553-0247.

To ensure effective communication with everyone, additional services can be made available to persons with disabilities. Please contact one of the EPA representatives to request additional services.



United States  
Environmental Protection  
Agency

Region 10 (OW-130)  
1200 Sixth Avenue  
Seattle WA 98101

TAYLOR LUMBER & TREATING SITE  
Sheridan, Oregon